



TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Growing Together. Welcoming All.

POSTSCRIPTS

March/April

Sunday Worship: 11 a.m.
Watch: [online](#), [YouTube](#) or
[Facebook](#)

**Church Office is Open
to Visitors:**
Mon-Thurs: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Fri: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
**3115 Providence Road
Charlotte, NC 28211**

trinitypreschurch.org
Phone: 704-366-3554

Stewardship Corner

Each Sunday before the Offering, our ministers share how Trinity is making a difference in the lives of so many people. These stories are just some of the many ways that Trinity is doing good in this world, all thanks to your continued generosity.



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Gilchrist 2023



Trinity was thrilled to welcome the Rev. Aisha Brooks-Johnson as our 2023 Gilchrist Speaker. The Gilchrist Speaker Series is an annual Lenten speaker series that connects Trinity and the wider community with leading theologians and ministers to dig deeper into what it means to be a faithful witness in today's world. Founded in 1982 and named for charter members Pat and Katie Gilchrist, the ministry is endowed by funds given in their honor by Press and Nancy Millen and the Gilchrist family.

The 2023 Gilchrist weekend kicked off on Saturday evening with the newly created "Gilchrist Conversation" in Carson Fellowship Hall. Guests enjoyed live music from DJ Boyd, food, and beverages. Trinity's Gilchrist hosts, Ned Parnell and Laura-Nelle Parnell Hurst, welcomed and introduced Rev. Brooks-Johnson who held an enriching conversation with Steve on the theme, "*Flourishing in An Unpredictable World*," followed by a Q&A. The evening closed with Rev. Brooks-Johnson, also a trained jazz vocalist, sharing a beautiful song accompanied by DJ. On Sunday, Rev. Brooks-Johnson preached an inspiring sermon titled, "*Practicing Our Faith: Healing*" at the 11:00 a.m. worship service. For those who may have missed it, you can view the sermon on the "Watch Worship" page of Trinity's website.

Those who attended from Trinity and the wider community had this to say: "Very impressed; a very meaningful event." "Loved the music!" "I really enjoyed it - thank you so much." We are so grateful to Rev. Brooks-Johnson for her presence with us and are already looking forward to next year's Gilchrist Speaker series!

The Session

Dr. Stephen B. Lindsley, Moderator
Warren Henry, Clerk
Louise Sanford, Asst. Clerk
Peiffer Brandt, Pres. of the Corp.
Cookie Parnell, Treasurer

Class of 2023

Peiffer Brandt Amy Bynum
Bev Bradley Christie Jameson
Caryl Stribling Caroline Banks, youth

Class of 2024

Ned Parnell Louise Sanford
Susanne Sawyer Carol Sugg
Walter Reid

Class of 2025

Jane Blount Mike Campbell
Josh Durham Andria Petry-Siage
Kelly Coley

Sessional Clusters & Ministry Teams Foundation

Personnel: Peiffer Brandt, Kelly Coley
Finance: Walter Reid
Buildings & Grounds: Carol Sugg

Formation

Christian Formation: Christie Jameson,
Susanne Sawyer
Youth: Ned Parnell
Worship: Caryl Stribling, Mike Campbell
Weekday School: Amy Bynum

Engagement

Mission & Outreach: Bev Bradley,
Jane Blount, Caroline Banks
Congregational Life: Andria Petry-Siage,
Louise Sanford
Stewardship: Josh Durham

Church Staff

Dr. Stephen B. Lindsley, Senior Minister
Rev. Rebecca Heilman-Campbell,
Associate Minister
Rev. Jodi Martin, Christian Formation
and Youth Director
Dr. Justin Smith, Director of Music &
Cultural Events
Keith McNabb, Interim Organist
Cheryl Jernigan, Church Administrator
Caroline Dalton, Comm. Coordinator
Angela Drugan, Admin. Coordinator
Rick Neil, Facilities Technician
Jodi King, Sunday Assistant
Amy Vaughn, WDS Director
Jane B. Arant, Music Minister Emerita
Sara Martin, Seminary Intern

On the Journey



Maya Angelou knows the work needed in faith. After being awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, she said, "I'm always amazed when people walk up to me and say, 'I'm a Christian.' I think, 'Already? You already got it?' I'm working at it, which means that I try to be as kind and fair and generous and respectful and courteous to every human being." Like Angelou, I was taught as a child to believe in God. We went to church every Sunday, prayed before bedtime, volunteered in soup kitchens, and traveled on Mission Trips. Church was a big part of my life. I knew all the Christian things to do. However, it wasn't until I started asking hard theological questions about life, death, faith, hope, etc., that my faith, my belief became my own. That's when my faith took shape and became a part of who I am. My parents taught me to be a Christian and I chose to believe when God's love became greater than what I was taught. In another interview, Angelou shares, "I dared to do anything that was a good thing...When I am asked to do something good, I often say yes, I'll try, yes, I'll do my best. And part of that is believing if God loves me, if God made everything from leaves to seals and oak trees, then what is it I can't do?" When did your belief become your own?

Rebecca Heilman

A View from the Choir Loft

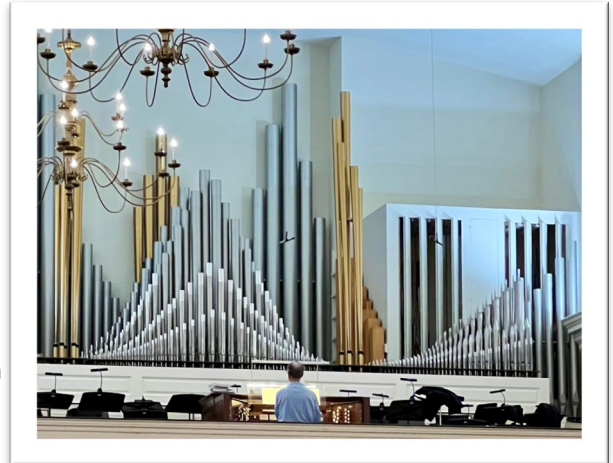
As a member of the Trinity Choir for the last 35 years, I can confidently say we have been very fortunate to have been led by outstanding music directors. We have been blessed with the best from Dr. Mary Nell Saunders, followed by Jane Arant, then Dr. Christopher Gilliam, and now Dr. Justin Smith! Trinity puts a high priority on great music in worship. If you have not met Justin, please make it a point to introduce yourself to him soon. He is an interesting, well-educated, and talented young man. He is taking his new role with us as Cultural Events Director very seriously and is already working on plans for a concert series in our Sanctuary. As you may already know, he is the Director of the Music Program, Director of Choral Activities, and an Assistant Professor at Queens University. His Doctor of Musical Arts is in Choral Conducting from the University of Houston. He has proven to us already that he is an excellent teacher of choristers and would like to see new members join our choir. Please contact Justin if you are interested in joining. He is married to Dr. Christina Cavazos, a Charlotte radiologist. Together they have three sons: Alex (16), Nicholas (13), and Benji (11). In addition, Justin's parents have recently relocated to Charlotte. - Gary Sugg



Justin Smith

Trinity's "New" Organ

About a month ago, on Sunday, January 22, those in our Sanctuary were treated to our renovated organ finally being available for worship. And then, our beloved organist, Michael Rowland, presented a magnificent dedicatory organ recital that afternoon at 3:00 p.m. This massive undertaking was made possible by funding from our church and the magnificent work Tom Lewtak and his staff did over ten months. Everything except the blower downstairs was replaced by state-of-the-art parts making our organ a virtually new instrument after almost 60 years of use. Tom refinished the console, built a new organ bench, raised the extensive pipe platform about 18", and created a beautiful new fascia board to cover the gap left by extending the pipe platform. In addition, state-of-the-art digital components replaced the antiquated and dangerous wiring.



So, for the first time in over a decade, ALL the options available on our organ can be used. Genuine and heartfelt thanks are extended to Tom and his crew and all the folks here at Trinity for the love, patience, and support—both financial and emotional.

A few glitches have occurred in the past week, with unwanted sounds appearing during inopportune times. Tom has been down to fix these and reassured us that this is a typical result of, as he so wonderfully put it, the invasive renovation that took place. Over 2000 parts were replaced, and the instrument will "settle" over the next few months. All is well. Our organ is back to fill our beautiful Sanctuary with its magnificent music.

Neighbors in Need

Trinity is again partnering with Sardis Presbyterian Church to support the Room in the Inn (RITI) program. RITI, organized by Roof Above, provides overflow shelter space to those experiencing homelessness during Charlotte's coldest months. This quote from writer and theologian, Henri J.M. Nouwen, captures an equally important goal of the RITI program: "We become neighbors when we are willing to cross the road for one another... We are all very busy in our own circles. We have our own people to go to and our own affairs to take care of. But if we could cross the road occasionally and pay attention to what is happening on the other side, we might indeed become neighbors."

Our volunteers this season can tell you about the neighbors they have met, the families who go from church to church each night with their young children in tow, the disabled gentleman who navigates each day on the streets with forearm crutches, and the elderly woman who was so grateful for the gift of a rain poncho. RITI is not a solution to homelessness. It is, however, an essential step in ending homelessness – creating awareness of our neighbors in need. To learn more about Roof Above and ways you can help your neighbors click [HERE](#).

Weekday School Family: Love in Action

There's a whole lotta love at Trinity Presbyterian Weekday School! On February 8, 2023, we invited parents and children to join us for a Family Love in Action Celebration. In the Valentine's Day spirit, folks met in the Fellowship Hall for a morning centered around family, community building, friendship, goodwill and supporting one another. Families were encouraged to visit a craft table to make a "Love in Action" card. These cards were delivered to our local elderly neighbors in need of a bit of Valentine's Day cheer.



After parents dropped their children off to their classrooms, we invited them to return for our pop-up "Makers Market". Philips Academy students greeted attendees with their signature coffee and donuts. Several Trinity WDS parents and teachers set up tables showcasing their small businesses. The offerings ranged from jewelry, photography, health coaching, coffee, and handmade toiletry bags, and fanny packs. It was a great opportunity to support Trinity WDS family-owned businesses!

The 3-year-old classes launched their "February Heart Health Drive" during the event. They supported heart health by collecting oatmeal donations for Loaves and Fishes. At the end of the event, our hearts were full!

Session Highlights

December Session Meeting

- A report from the Music Director Search Committee was received, ending in a motion that Dr. Justin Smith is recommended as Director of Music/Cultural Events Director, a permanent part-time position, starting Jan.01, 2023. The motion was moved, seconded, and approved. The Session thanked the search committee members consisting of Katherine Lambert, Susan Knowlson, Harrison Bumgardner, and Gary Sugg, Sr.
- Motion that examination of 6 elders-elect is sustained (Elder Class of 2025 including Jane Blount, Mike Campbell, Kelly Coley, Josh Durham and Andria Petry-Siage, and Caroline Banks as Youth Elder Class of 2023) and that they be recommended for installation and ordination, as appropriate. The motion was moved, seconded, and approved.
- Officer Nominating Committee moved that Josh Durham is recommended as a Session representative to the ONC for two years (end of 2024). The motion was moved, seconded, and approved.
- A motion was made recommending church officers: Peiffer Brandt as President of the Corporation, Cookie Parnell as Treasurer, and Warren Henry as Clerk of Session. All terms are for one year. The motion was moved, seconded, and approved.
- Motion from the Worship Ministry Team to approve the baptismal request on March 12, 2023, for Virginia Lea Bruckmann, whose parents are Blair and Ronald Bruckmann. The motion was seconded and approved.
- With the action and idea of welcoming being present and embodied in other Ministry Teams, the Welcoming Ministry Team moved to dissolve this Ministry Team from Trinity Presbyterian Church. The motion was seconded and approved.

Called Congregational Meeting—December 4, 2022

- The ONC presented the Elder Slate for 2025 for a three-year term:
-Jane Blount, Mike Campbell, Kelly Coley, Josh Durham, Andrea Petry-Siage
- The Youth Elder was presented for a one-year term (2023):
-Caroline Banks
- Two at-large members were presented for two-year terms on the ONC:
-Sarah Mullis, Reta Phifer

All motions were moved, seconded, and approved by the Congregation.

Our Church Family

Church Triumphant:

February 9 Rosemary Dew Blanchard

Congratulations:

Sara Martin passed her ordination exams.



Children's Choir singing during Worship

Save the Dates

March 24-26

April 2

April 7—16

April 7

April 9

April 23

May 30

Women's Retreat

Palm Sunday

Weekday School Spring Break

Good Friday

Easter Sunday

Weekday School Spring Fling

Weekday School Summer Camp

February 28

	February Actuals	YTD Actuals	Annual Budget
Receipts:	36,476.48	80,816.84	658,653.31
Unrest. Funds Used:	282.90	282.90	38,000.00
Boltz Funds Used:	692.42	1,384.84	8,309.00
Endow. Funds Used:	12,305.50	24,611.00	147,666.00
Gilchrist Funds Used:	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
Sanford Bldg. Maint. Funds Used :	329.08	658.16	3,949.00
Thomson Funds Used:	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
Expenses:	80,504.58	156,967.24	899,762.97
Surplus/Deficit:	(30,418.20)	(49,213.50)	(33,185.96)